

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 DHA-02 EB-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1043

INFO CINCPAC

CINCPACREPHIL

13TH AF CLARK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 9071

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MARCOS LAUDS U.S. AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITMENT

1. DURING INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPTION JUNE 12, PRESIDENT MARCOS PAID NOTABLE AND MUCH NOTICED TRIBUTE TO THE U.S. IN RESPONDING TO TOAST OF PAPAL NUNCIO STRESSING HUMAN WELFARE AND JUSTICE.

2. DELICATELY SIDE-STEPPING THE FATE OF THE PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DECLARED SEVENTY-NINE YEARS AGO, MARCOS CREDITED THE U.S. BEFORE THE ASSEMBLAGE OF CABINET MEMBERS, RANKING MILITARY AND DIPLOMATS WITH TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO HAVING GRANTED INDEPENDENCE TO THE PHILIPPINES AND THEREBY SET IN MOTION THE INEXORABLE PROCESS OF WORLD DECOLONIZATION. NOW ONCE AGAIN, MARCOS SAID, THE U.S. IS REASSERTING ITS MORAL LEADERSHIP (ALONG WITH OTHER NATIONS). THAT LEADERSHIP IS WELCOME MARCOS CONTINUED, AND HE PREDICTED THAT 1977 WILL BE "A CRITICAL AND CRUCIAL YEAR" FOR MANKIND. THE PHILIPPINES, HE SAID, WILL FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS NOT ONLY TO ITS OWN CITIZENS BUT ALSO TO HUMANITY. HE PLEDGED TO WORK WITH OTHER NATIONS TO PROMOTE A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER WHICH, HE SAID, IS THE BASIS

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FOR PROMOTING HUMAN WELFARE. THE NEW SOCIETY, HE ADDED, RESTS ON THE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN DIGNITY, AND HK AFFIRMED THAT THE PHILIPPINES WILL MATCH THE EFFORTS OF OTHER NATIONS IN PROMOTING HUMAN DIGNITY "IN A JUST AND PEACEFUL WORLD."

3. WHEN I THANKED MARCOS FOR HIS GRACIOUS REMARKS, HE

REPLIED THAT WHAT HE HAD SAID WAS SIMPLE TRUTH. HE ADDED THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO REASSERT THE HUMAN VALUES AS PRESIDENT CARTER HAS DONE. I AGREED, ADDING THAT THAT REASSERTATION MAY PROVE TO HAVE MARKED A TURNING OF THE TIDE IN FAVOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS. DEFENSE SECRETARY ENRILE INTERJECTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER SEEMED TO HAVE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS ALL AROUND THE GLOBE. I REPLIED THAT THESE WERE NOT SO MUCH CARTER'S PROBLEMS AND THOSE OF THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY OCCURRED. ENRILE SAID THERE WAS MUCH CONFUSION ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. I OFFERED MY IMPRESSION THAT CARTER MOST WISHES TO GATHER SUPPORTERS WHO WILL STAND WITH HIM IN DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. MARCOS CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING ME JUNE 14 TO RECEIVE THE MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE (WHICH PRESUMABLY HE KNOWS FROM MRS. MARCOS IS ON HUMAN RIGHTS).

4. COMMENT: MARCOS NOW HAS PULLED ABOUT ALL THE RHETORICAL STOPS IN HIS COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS. ONE DIPLOMAT SIDLED UP TO DEMAND WHAT EXPLAINS THE PHILIPPINE SHIFT OF LATE. I REPLIED, "MORAL SUASION;" HE SAID, "BALLS*", AND WENT AWAY MUTTERING, "IT MUST BE THE BASES." AS A VARIATION ON THE LATTER THEME, PRESIDENT MARCOS (MANILA 8102), MRS. MARCOS (MANILA 8971) AND NOW DEFENSE SECRETARY ENRILE AND FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO (SEPTEL) HAVE ALL CRYPTICALLY SUGGESTED A CERTAIN NERVOUSNESS ABOUT BEING LEFT OUT IN THE COLD WITH THE RUSSIANS BACKING THE LIBYANS BACKING THE MNLF, SHOULD HOSTILITIES RESUME IN MINDANAO.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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